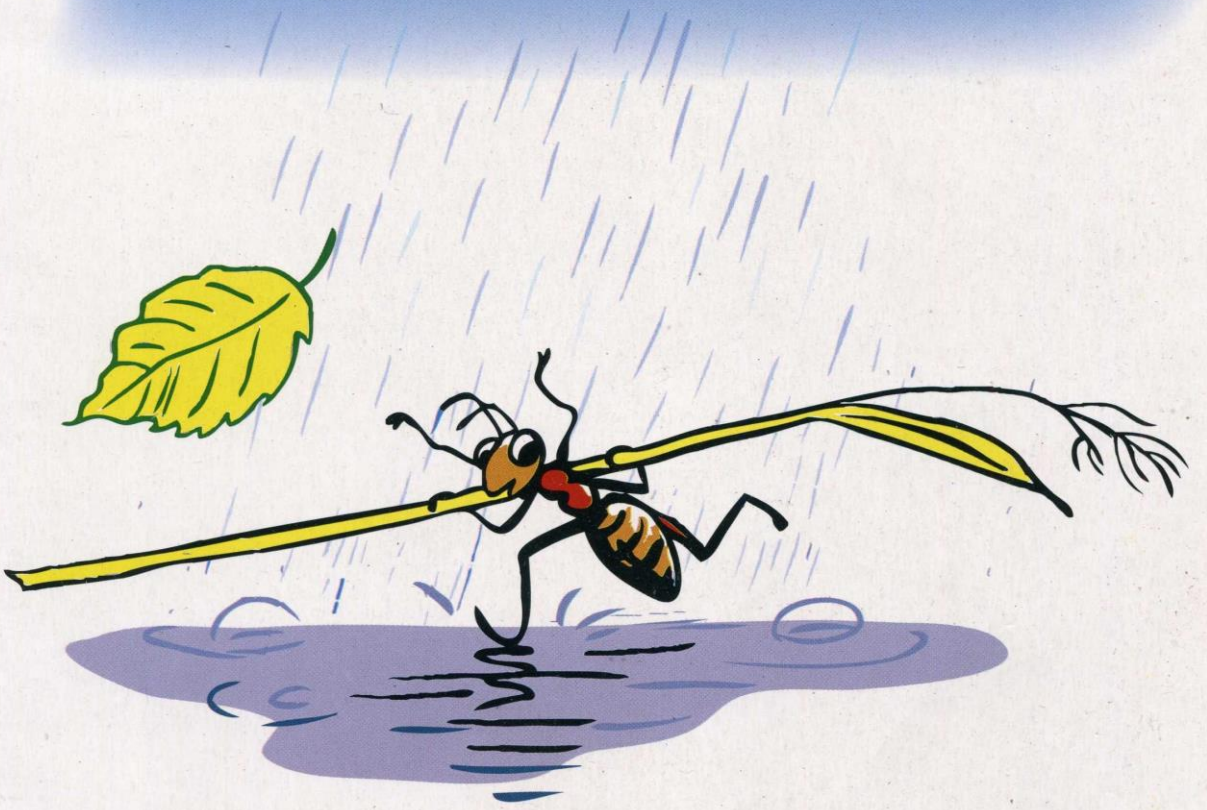
Under THE MUSHROOM



V. Suteyev

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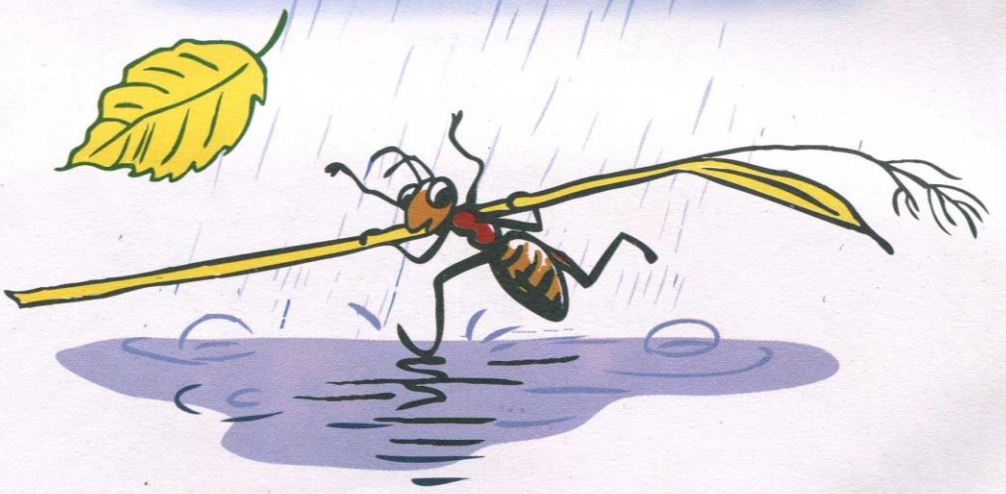
Under THE MUSHROOM



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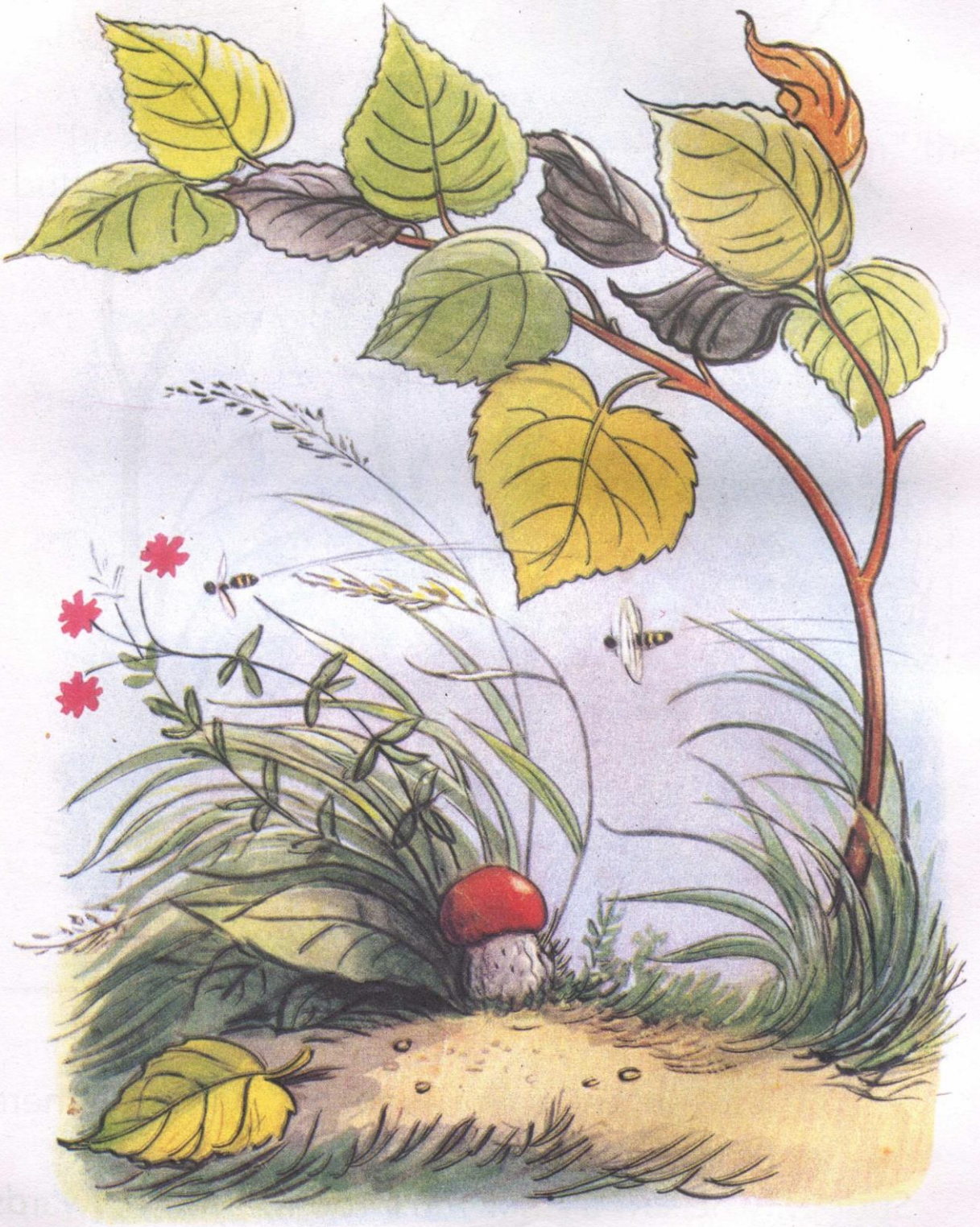


One day an ant was caught in the rain. Where could he hide?

Suddenly he saw a small mushroom. He ran towards it and hid under the cap.

There he sat under the mushroom, waiting for the rain to stop.

But it kept on raining and raining.

A wet butterfly crawled to the mushroom.

"Please ant, let me hide under the mushroom," the butterfly said. "I'm all wet and can't fly."

"But there's no room," said the Ant. "Why, there's hardly enough room for me here."

"That doesn't matter. The more the merrier!" said the Butterfly.

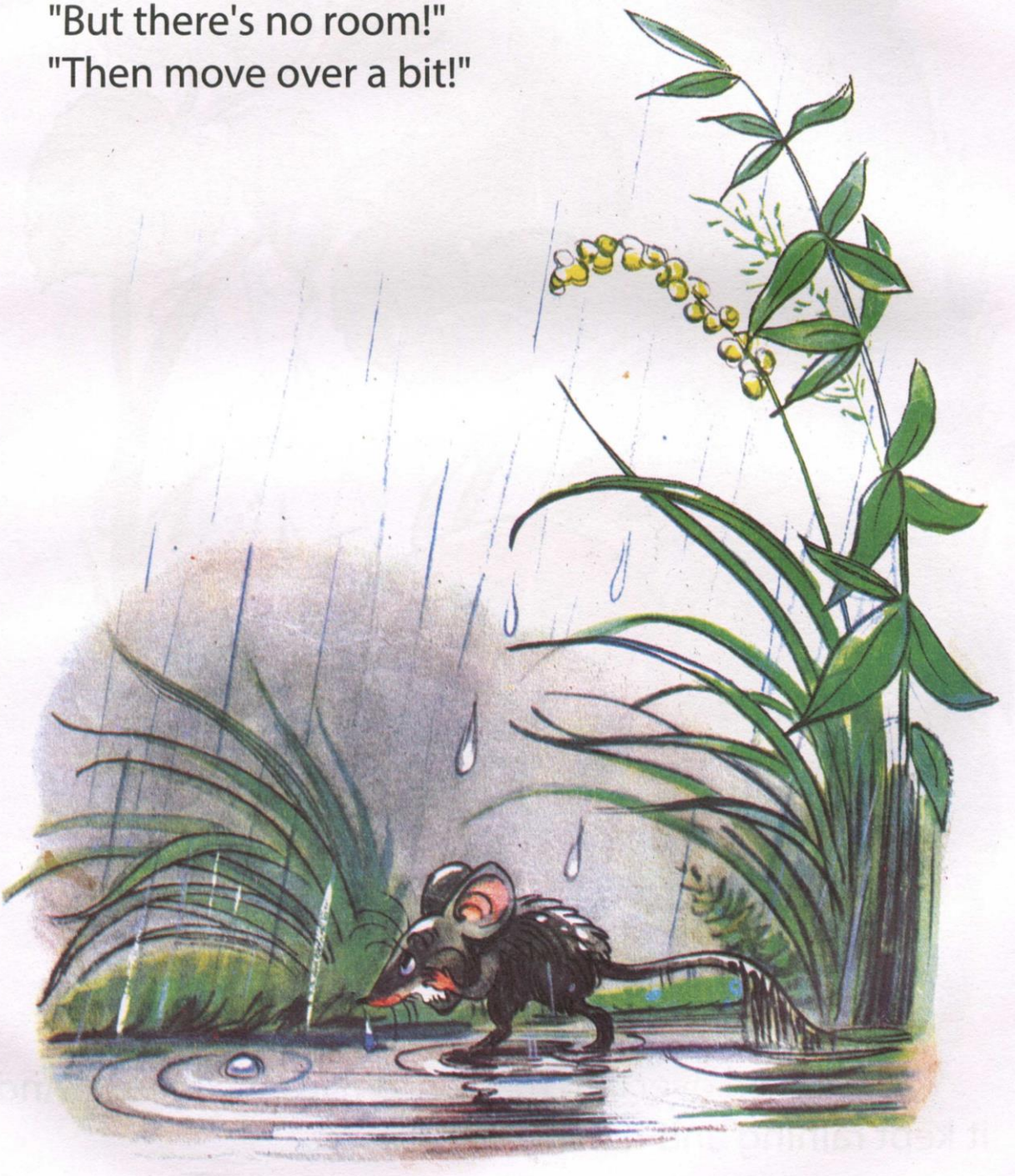
And so the Ant let the Butterfly hide under the mushroom, too.

But it kept on raining and raining. A mouse scampered by.

"May I get under there with you? I'm soaked to the skin," said the Mouse.

"But there's no room!"

"Then move over a bit!"



They moved over and made room for the Mouse. And it kept raining and raining.

A Sparrow hopped by.

"My feathers are wet, my wings are tired!" he cried. "Please let me hide under the mushroom to dry and rest up until the rain stops."

"There's no room."

"Please move over a bit!"

"All right

They moved over and made room for the sparrow.

Just then a Rabbit came into the clearing and saw the mushroom.

"Help! Save me!" he shouted, "the Fox is after me!"

"Poor Rabbit!" said the Ant. "Let's squeeze a little closer."

No sooner had they hidden the Rabbit than the Fox came running up.

"Did anyone see a Rabbit?"

"No."

The Fox came closer and sniffed. "Isn't he hiding some place here?"

"Where? But there's no room!"

The Fox swished its tail and went off.

Then the rain stopped and the sun came out.

Everyone crawled out from under the mushroom and hopped about.

"Isn't that strange? said the Ant, after a moment. "At first, there wasn't even enough room for me under the mushroom, but then there was room for all five of us!"

"Croo-oak! Ho-ho! Croo-oak!" someone laughed.

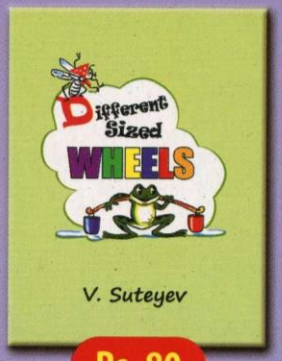
They all looked up. There, on top of the mushroom, was a frog. He was laughing.

"Oh, my! Why, the mushroom..."

And then the Frog was gone before he had finished speaking.

They looked at the mushroom and suddenly guessed why there had been so little room for the Ant at first and then there was room for all five of them.

Can you guess?



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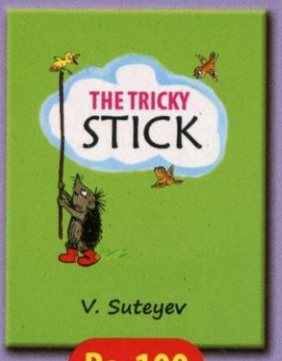

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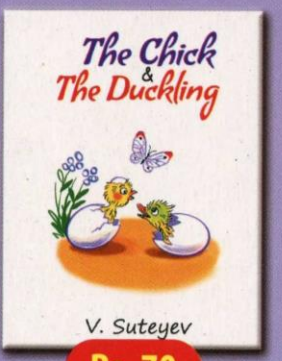

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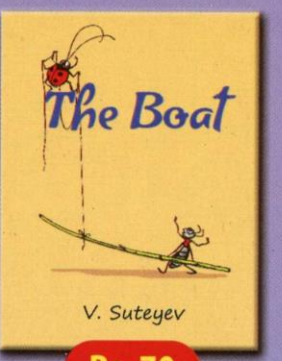

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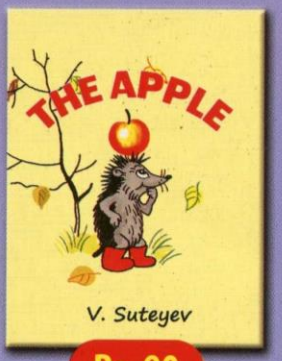

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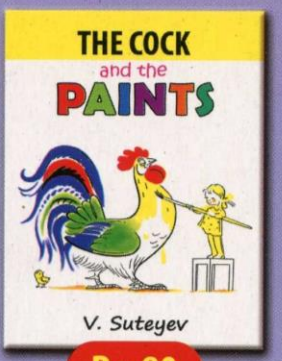

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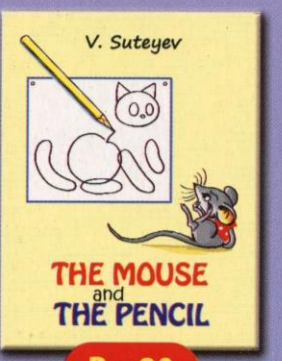

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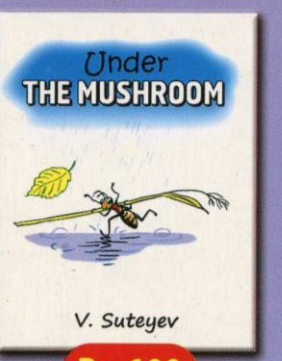

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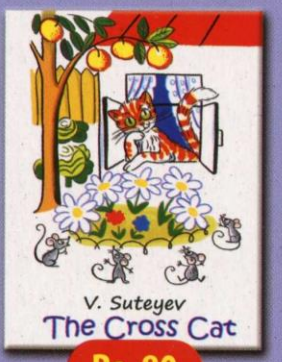

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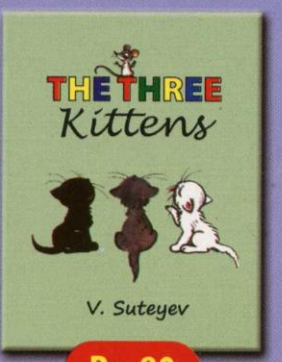

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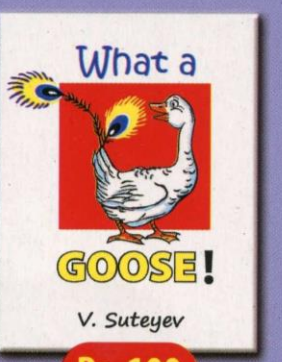

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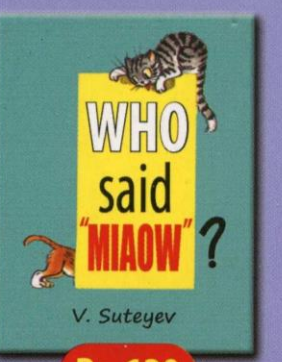

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